

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A computer-implemented method of network collaboration through embedded annotation and rendering instructions to generate, transmit, and render collaborative content, the method comprising the steps of:

generating a collaborative content including a base document and at least one collaborative content element;

rendering said collaborative content; and

transmitting said collaborative content between client workstations.

2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step[[s]] of[[:]] annotating said collaborative content by adding another collaborative content element.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said annotating step comprises presenting annotation options to said client workstation.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said annotating step comprises inputting a text element to name said collaborative content element.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in 2 wherein said annotating step[[s]] comprises inputting a test input element to generate text as said collaborative element.

6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said annotating step[[s]] comprises providing a visual cue to indicate the state of said collaborative content composition step.

7. (Original) the method as claimed in claim 6 wherein said visual cue comprises at least one of a marker, cursor, icon, and marquee box.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claims 1 wherein said transmitting step is initiated by a user selecting a visual element to transmit said collaborative content.

9. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said client workstations includes at least one of a personal computer equipped with internet browser software, a mobile communication device with a graphical or textual display, and a personal digital assistant equipped with a hypertext viewer.

10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said client workstation includes a program execution capability comprising:

- an interpreted software program;
- a compiled software program; and
- a software program executed by a virtual machine.

11. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said transmitting step is performed using a messaging system.

12. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said messaging system includes at least one of:

- an electronic mail system;
- an electronic news or bulletin-board system; and
- a mobile paging system.

13. (Original) the method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said transmitting step is performed using a transport mechanism including at least one of:

- an internet protocol;
- a wireless protocol;
- a synchronous messaging protocol; and
- an asynchronous messaging protocol.

1[[3]]4. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said rendering step is performed on a client workstation.

1[[4]]5. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said rendering step is performed on a server.

1[[5]]6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the collaborative content transmitted in said transmitting step includes a URL and rendering instructions.

1[[6]]7. (Currently renumbered and amended) A network collaboration tool using embedded annotation and rendering instructions comprising:

- a web browser software for displaying collaborative content;
- a graphical collaboration tool for generating at least one collaborative content element on the collaborative content displayed in said web browser software and transmitting the at least one collaborative content element; and
- a server process for receiving at least one generated collaborative content element[[s]], rendering the collaborative content in combination with the collaborative content element[[s]], and generating a combined collaborative content including the collaborative content element[[s]] for display by said web browser software.

1[[7]]8. (Currently amended) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 1[[6]]7 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes a toolbar.

1[[8]]9. (Currently amended) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 1[[7]]8 wherein said toolbar includes an add circle tool, an add rectangle tool, an add arrow tool, and add text tool, and an add text highlight tool.

[[19]]20. (Currently amended) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 1[[6]]7 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes a collaborative content element name entry field.

2[[0]]1. (Currently amended) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 1[[6]]7 wherein said web browser software, said graphical collaboration tool, and said server process execute on the same computer system.

2[[1]]2. (Currently amended) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 1[[6]]7 wherein said web browser software, said graphical collaboration tool, and said server process each execute on a separate computer system.

2[[2]]3. (Currently amended) A system for network collaboration using embedded annotation and rendering instructions comprising:

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and

a memory coupled to the processor, said memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to generate a collaborative content including a base document and at least one collaborative content element, render the collaborative content, and transmit the collaborative content between client workstations.

2[[3]]4. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein said memory further comprises sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to:

annotate the collaborative content by adding another collaborative content element.

2[[4]]5. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[3]]4 wherein said annotate instructions comprise presenting annotation options to a user at the client workstation.

2[[5]]6. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[3]]4 wherein said annotate instructions comprise inputting a text element to name said collaborative content element.

2[[6]]7. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claims 2[3]4 wherein said annotate instructions comprise inputting a text input element to generate text as said collaborative element.

2[[7]]8. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[3]]4 wherein said annotate instructions comprise providing a visual cue to indicate the state of said collaborative content composition step.

2[[8]]9. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[7]]8 wherein the visual cue comprises at least one of a marker, cursor, icon, and marquee box.

[[29]]30. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein said transmit instruction is initiated by a user selecting a visual element to transmit the collaborative content.

3[[0]]1. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein the client workstation includes at least one of a personal computer equipped with internet browser software, a mobile communication device with a graphical or textual display, and a personal digital assistant equipped with a hypertext viewer.

3[[1]]2. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein the client workstation includes a program execution capability comprising:

- an interpreted software program;
- a compiled software program; and
- a software program executed by a virtual machine.

3[[2]]3. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein the transmit instruction is performed using a messaging system.

3[[3]]4. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 3[[2]]3 wherein the messaging system includes at least one of:

- an electronic mail system;
- an electronic news or bulletin-board system; and
- a mobile paging system.

3[[4]]5. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein the transmit instruction is performed using a transport mechanism including at least one of:

- an internet protocol;
- a wireless protocol;
- a synchronous messaging protocol; and
- an asynchronous messaging protocol.

3[[5]]6. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein the render instruction is performed on a client workstation.

3[[6]]7. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein the render instruction is performed on a server.

3[[7]]8. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein the collaborative content transmitted includes a URL and rendering instructions.

3[[8]]9. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein said sequences of instructions include at least one of a client-side scripting language.

[[39]]40. (Currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 2[[2]]3 wherein said sequences of instructions include at least one of Javascript and dynamic HTML.

4[[0]]1. (Currently amended) A client system for network collaboration comprising:

a collaborative content; and

a graphical collaboration tool for generating, transmitting, and rendering said collaborative content wherein said graphical collaboration tool is downloaded from a server.

4[[1]]2. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[0]]1 wherein said collaborative content is referencable by a URL.

4[[2]]3. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[0]]1 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes a client-side scripting language.

4[[3]]4. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[0]]1 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes at least one of Javascript and dynamic HTML.

4[[4]]5. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[0]]1 wherein said collaborative content includes a URL of a base document and a representation of a collaborative content element.

4[[5]]6. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[0]]1, wherein said graphical collaboration tool, in response to a user manipulating said graphical collaboration tool to add a collaborative content element, transmits a representation of the collaborative content element and the URL of said collaborative content to a server and receives from the server said collaborative content including the added collaborative content element.

4[[6]]7. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[0]]1 wherein said graphical collaboration tool, in response to a user manipulating said graphical collaboration tool to modify a collaborative content element, transmits a

representation of the collaborative content element and the URL of said collaborative content to a server and receives from the server said collaborative content including the modified collaborative content element.

4[[7]]8. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[0]]1 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes a toolbar.

4[[8]]9. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[7]]8 wherein the tool bar includes an add circle tool, an add rectangle tool, and add arrow tool, an add text tool, and an add text highlight tool.

[[49]]50. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[7]]8 wherein the tool bar includes a collaborative content element name entry field.

5[[0]]1. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[5]]6 wherein said collaborative content received from the server includes an HTML page.

5[[1]]2. (Currently amended) The client system as claimed in claim 4[[6]]7 wherein said collaborative content received from the server includes an HTML page.

5[[1]]3. (Currently amended) A server system for network collaboration comprising:

a collaborative content; and

a server process for responding to a user request wherein the user request includes at least one of a request for said collaborative content, a graphical collaboration tool, said collaborative content including an added collaborative content element, and said collaborative content including a modified collaborative content element.

5[[2]]4. (Currently amended) The server system as claimed in claimed 5[[1]]3 wherein said collaborative content is referencable by a URL.



5[[3]]5. (Currently amended) The server system as claimed in claim 5[[1]]3 wherein said server process is a CGI script.

5[[4]]6. (Currently amended) The server system as claimed in claim 5[[1]]3 wherein said collaborative content includes a URL of a base document and a representation of a collaborative content element.

5[[5]]7. (Currently amended) The server system as claimed in claim 5[[1]]3 wherein said server process executes on a client workstation of a user.

5[[6]]8. (Currently amended) the server system as claimed in claim 5[[1]]3 wherein said collaborative content transmitted in response to a user request includes an HTML page.